

JANUARY 21, 2016

The Town Council met in regular session at the Town Hall at 5:00 p.m.

Present were: BLAYLOCK, FLANDERS, WADE, and WATSON along with Clerk-Treasurer Karla Atkins and Attorney Jeff Ahlers.

The following visitors were present: Rebecca Harvey, Ann Rains, Dan Barton, John DiDomizio, Kelsey Schapker, Virginia Alsop, Karen Walker, Derek and Cade Lawshaw, Linda Warrum, Patricia Gosh, Jennifer Blaylock, Barb McConnell, Brenda Drone, Ann Angle, Loretta Gerard, Johnathan Scott, Tim Wiley, Dan Busler, Caroline Williams, Valerie Werkmeister, Nathan Maudlin, Bobby Grider, and Caleb McDaniel.

Councilman Blaylock made and Watson seconded a motion the minutes of the previous regular meeting be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Watson made and Blaylock seconded a motion the minutes of the January 8, 2016 special meeting be approved. All were in favor except Councilman Flanders, who abstained. Motion carried.

Councilman Blaylock reported Johnson Controls had been called to look at the boilers at the former school building. It was determined that a power outage had caused the problem.

Councilman Wade reported a pre-bid meeting was held on the phosphorus removal and sludge dewatering project. Bids will be opened at a Special Meeting on February 3.

Councilman Watson introduced the new Town Marshal, Caleb McDaniel, who was present at the meeting, and stated he has received compliments regarding Marshal McDaniel.

Councilman Wade called for nominations for Town Council President. Councilman Flanders nominated himself, and stated a second is not required for the nomination, and that each nomination should be voted upon in the order they were made, per Robert's Rules of Order. Councilman Wade nominated Councilman Blaylock. Councilman Blaylock nominated Councilman Wade. A vote on each nomination was conducted with the following results:

Nomination for Councilman Flanders received one vote from Councilman Flanders; nomination for Councilman Blaylock received two votes from Councilman Wade and Watson; nomination for Councilman Wade received one vote from Councilman Blaylock.

Councilman Blaylock was declared to be the new Town Council President.

Cade Latshaw gave an update on his Eagle Scout Project. He intends to construct a golf cart bridge over mill ditch to provide access to the Old Mill Mart. He stated his main reason for choosing this project is for safety. He plans to have an easement agreement prepared that conveys the property where the bridge is located to the Town for a specified period of time.

On the advice of Attorney Ahlers, Councilman Flanders made and Wade seconded a motion that the election of Councilman Blaylock as Town Council President be affirmed. All were in favor. Motion carried.

John DiDomizio, with Morley & Associates, gave an update on the gas line relocation project. The archaeology report has been completed and is currently being reviewed by their office. Mr. DiDomizio stated they have lowered the construction and engineering cost estimate for the project to \$900,000. to \$950,000. They hope to conduct the bidding process in the spring to summer of 2016. Councilman Flanders asked the affect of the project on the ratepayers. Mr. DiDomizio stated that information is being calculated by the rate consultant, Pat Callahan. Councilman Flanders inquired about the possible repurposing of the bridge and if that would have an impact on whether or not the gas line should be removed. Mr. DiDomizio stated it is his opinion that the line needs to be removed for safety reasons.

Nathan Maudlin, with the Workingmen's Institute, reported they are proceeding with the feasibility study for the proposed William Maclure Conservatory. The study is scheduled to begin the week of February 1, 2016, and is being conducted by the firm IFF. Mr. Maudlin stated the WMI had an agreement to pay up to \$2,500. a month towards the utilities at the former school property, and that agreement ends February 29. Mr. Maudlin continued the WMI trustees have approved extending the agreement for three months, under the condition that they have access to the property so the feasibility study can be completed. The trustees believe that they will be prepared at that time to make a decision as to whether or not to proceed with developing the William Maclure Conservatory. Mr. Maudlin asked if Johnson Controls would be able to develop a written report on the boilers at the former school. President Blaylock commented he believes such a report would be quite costly and asked if WMI would be willing to contribute toward the cost. Mr. Maudlin stated he does not feel that it needs to go that far, but perhaps

someone on the Town Council could meet with the staff of IFF and provide some information. Councilman Flanders asked if the \$2,500. being paid by the WMI is covering the utility cost, to which Clerk-Treasurer Atkins responded it is not. Councilman Flanders made and Watson seconded a motion that the agreement between the Town and the WMI for the WMI to pay up to \$2,500. a month for utilities at the former school building be extended for three months. All were in favor except Councilman Wade who abstained due to his serving on the WMI Board. Motion carried.

Mr. Maudlin reported the Farm to Table program the WMI is proposing was given funding through the Regional Cities Program. He explained a little about the program.

Linda Warrum informed Council that the Town's phase 2 wellhead protection plan was approved by IDEM. She thanked those that helped assemble the plan. She stated phase 3 is due in five years.

Councilman Watson made and Wade seconded a motion that the Town Council regular meetings be held at 8 a.m. on the third Tuesday of each month. All were in favor except Councilman Flanders who abstained because this will cause an occasional inconvenience for his business. Motion carried.

President Blaylock read department head assignments as follows:

Gas – Watson, Wade

Water – Blaylock, Watson

Sewage – Wade, Blaylock

Fire – Blaylock, Wade

Police- Watson, Gibbs

Park – Flanders, Watson

Cemetery – Flanders, Wade

Streets – Gibbs, Blaylock

Solid Waste –Gibbs, Flanders

Trails – Wade, Flanders

School – Blaylock, Wade

The first name listed shall be the primary and the second shall be the secondary.

President Blaylock stated the Town needs a zoning administrator. President Blaylock agreed to fill in until a permanent appointment can be made.

President Blaylock appointed Virginia Alsop to replace Don Williams on the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Councilman Wade made and Watson seconded a motion that the following appointments be made to the Plan Commission: Alvin Blaylock replaces Karen Walker, David Flanders replaces Linda Warrum, and Caleb McDaniel replaces Scott Champlin, and on the Park Board, Jill Garcia replaces Jodie Moore. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock made the following appointments to the Plan Commission: Don Alsop replaces Jim Norton, Annette Buckland replaces David Flanders, and Charlie Huck replaces Alvin Blaylock.

Johnathon Scott stated he strongly opposes the Council's change of their regular meeting schedule. He stated he runs a small business, and those are his busiest hours. He stated it looks as if Council is trying to hide what they are doing by having the meetings at a time when the least amount of people will be able to attend.

Caroline Williams commented she is opposed to the meetings being moved to 8 a.m. Councilman Watson stated County government has their meetings in the mornings.

President Blaylock stated the meeting change was not done to stop people from attending or to hide anything. The Council has decided on the schedule as previously stated, which may or may not work out.

Pat Gosh stated she is present on behalf of the New Harmony Business Associates, and 8 a.m. will be hard for many to open their shops and attend the Council meeting where they would like to have representation. She objected to the 8 a.m. meeting time.

Barb McConnell asked that Council coordinate one clean-up day for the whole Town which would include Maple Hill Cemetery, the Parks, etc. She made this request on behalf of the Garden Club.

Dan Busler expressed concern over the gas line relocation project and the cost to the ratepayers.

President Blaylock reported the Council has decided to look into hiring an attorney. Councilman Flanders pointed out he had received an unsolicited proposal from an Evansville attorney which will be

made available to the other Council members. He also reported that IACT has an on line bulletin board for positions where the opening could be posted. He offered to work with Clerk-Treasurer Atkins to design a posting for the site.

President Blaylock read Ordinance 2016-2 in title only. This ordinance adds the Pledge of Allegiance to the Town Council order of business. Councilman Flanders made and Wade seconded a motion that Ordinance 2016-2 be adopted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Wade made and Watson seconded a motion that the claims be allowed and the Clerk pay the same. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Flanders suggested that those involved with the Regional Cities Program be invited to provide specifics of the projects to Council.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

Alvin Blaylock, President of Town Council

Attest:

Karla L. Atkins, Clerk-Treasurer